



HIERARCHICAL MANAGEMENT FILE DEVICE AND RECORDING/REPRODUCTION METHOD AND ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT EQUIPPED WITH SAME

To provide a hierarchical management file device which can efficiently record and reproduce files of a large size requiring continuous high-speed recording and reproduction and discrete files of a small size, the large size files and small size files being recorded onto a recording medium in a hybrid manner, and the electronic equipment equipped with same. A recording area of recording medium is divided into a plurality of clusters, and each cluster is subdivided into a plurality of fragments. Files are hierarchically recorded on and reproduced from the information recording medium, while referring to a cluster FAT showing the links of the clusters and the use states of the fragments of each cluster, a fragment FAT showing links of the fragments, and a directory entry table merging the cluster FAT and the fragment FAT.